

*LEPTOMICRURUS* IN BRASIL [SERPENTES — *ELAPIDAE*]

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No definite record of *Leptomicrurus* from Brazil was known until this moment. The specimen recorded as *Elaps narducci* by Gomes (1:525) from the State of Ceará, Brazil, needed re-examination since the occurrence in the dry "Caa-tinga" region, was more than doubtful. Already Schmidt (2:363) suggested the re-examination of Gomes specimen.

The collection of the former "Museu Rocha" to which belonged Gomes *narducci* was donated to Butantan by Dr. Fernando de Castro Lima and this event permitted us to confirm Gomes identification and furnished additional data about the origin of Gomes specimen. *Elaps narducci* recorded by Gomes collected by a "seringueiro" in an unknown locality of the State of Acre, Brazil.

Since the State of Acre is bordered by Peru and Bolivia from where *Elaps narducci* is known, there is no more doubt about the occurrence of *Leptomicrurus narducci* in Brazil.

Recently we received 2 specimens of *Leptomicrurus* from Tapurucua-ra, State of Amazonas, Brazil, which are different from *Leptomicrurus narducci* and from *Leptomicrurus collaris* and may be called:—

**LEPTOMICRUS SCHMIDTI**, sp. nov.

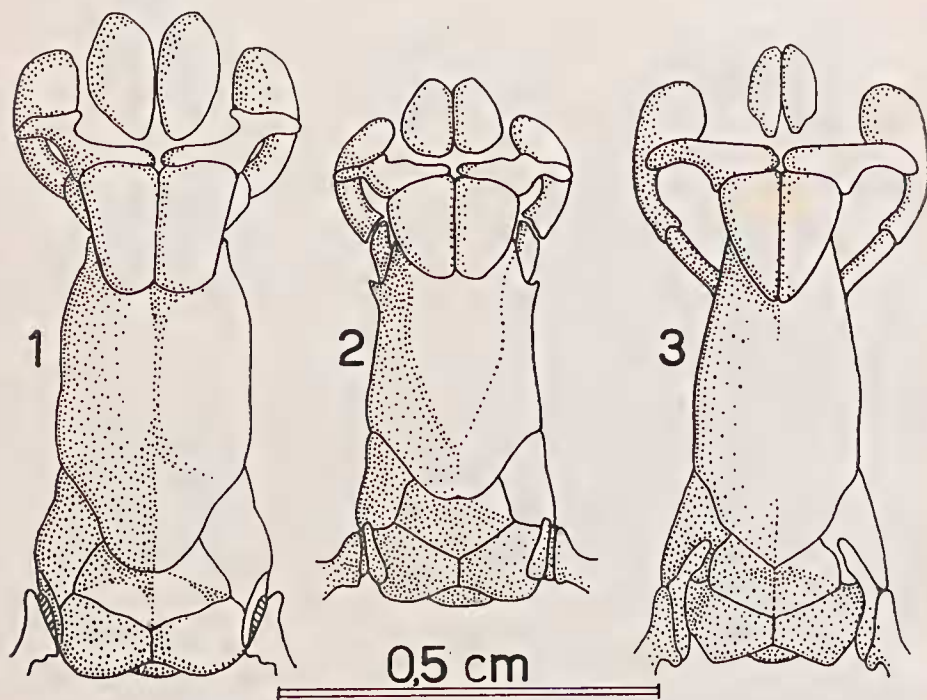
*Type*: IB n.º 22 149, ♂, from Tapurucua-ra, M. Uaupés, Amazonas, Brazil, collected by F. M. Oliveira in June, 1962.

*Paratype*: IB n.º 22 150, ♂, from the same locality, same collector and same date.

*Diagnosis*: A species of the genus *Leptomicrurus* characterized by: temporals 1+1; a white band crossing the head, behind the eyes; ventrals 219, the presence of an osseous process on the parietal and a small supratemporal.

*Relationships*: *Leptomicrurus Schmidti* is closely related to *Leptomicrurus narducci* (Jan) but easily distinguished from it by the lower number (219)

of ventrals (minimum known for male is 231 in *Leptomicrurus narducci*), the more posterior position of nuchal collar (fig. 2a) the presence of a lateral process on the skull (fig. 2) by having the upper side of the parietal region flattened instead of rounded (fig. 2, 1). The frontals shorter but wider (fig. 2) and a different shape of the skull (fig. 1, 2, 3).



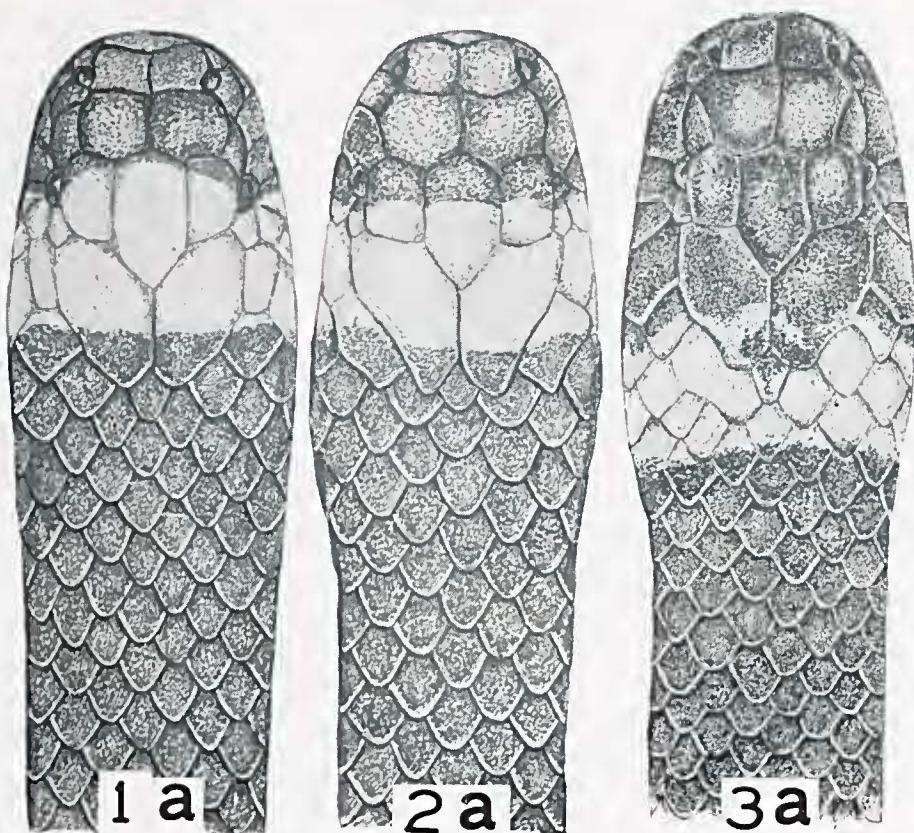
1 — *Leptomicrurus narducci*.

2 — *Leptomicrurus Schmidtii* sp. nov.

3 — *Leptomicrurus collaris* (after a picture).

*Description of the type*: IB n.º 22 149, ♂, collected at Tapuru-euara, district of Uaupés, State of Amazonas, Brazil, by F. M. Oliveira, June 1962. Ventrals 219, anal divided, subcaudals 27, dorsals in 15 rows, 7 upper labials, the 3<sup>th</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> entering the orbit (the 3<sup>th</sup> one only scarcely) the 6<sup>th</sup> largest; 1 preocular as high as long, in contact with posterior nasal; 2 postoculars; temporal 1+1, nearly as deep as long; 2 internasals, a little wider than long; 2 praefrontals; frontal longer than large wide; 6 lower labials; the 4<sup>th</sup> largest of all, the 4 first pairs in contact with anterior chin shields. A white collar crossing the head just behind the eyes occupying half of the supraoculars and extending nearly to the end of the 7<sup>th</sup> upper labial. 36 orange red, rounded blotches on the belly and 2 under the tail; tip of tail white with a small apical black tip; dorsum dark brown, nearly black. Total length 335 mm; tail 23 mm.

*Paratype*: IB n.º 22 150, ♂, from the same locality, collector and date. Ventrals 219, anal divided; subcaudals 21; 7 upper labials; the 3<sup>th</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> entering the orbit; 32 orange red rounded blotches on the belly, 4 on the tail, top of tail as in type. Total length 286 mm; tail 18 mm; head 7 mm.



1a — *Leptomicrurus narduccii*.  
2a — *Leptomicrurus Schmidt* sp. nov.  
3a — *Leptomicrurus collaris* (after a picture).

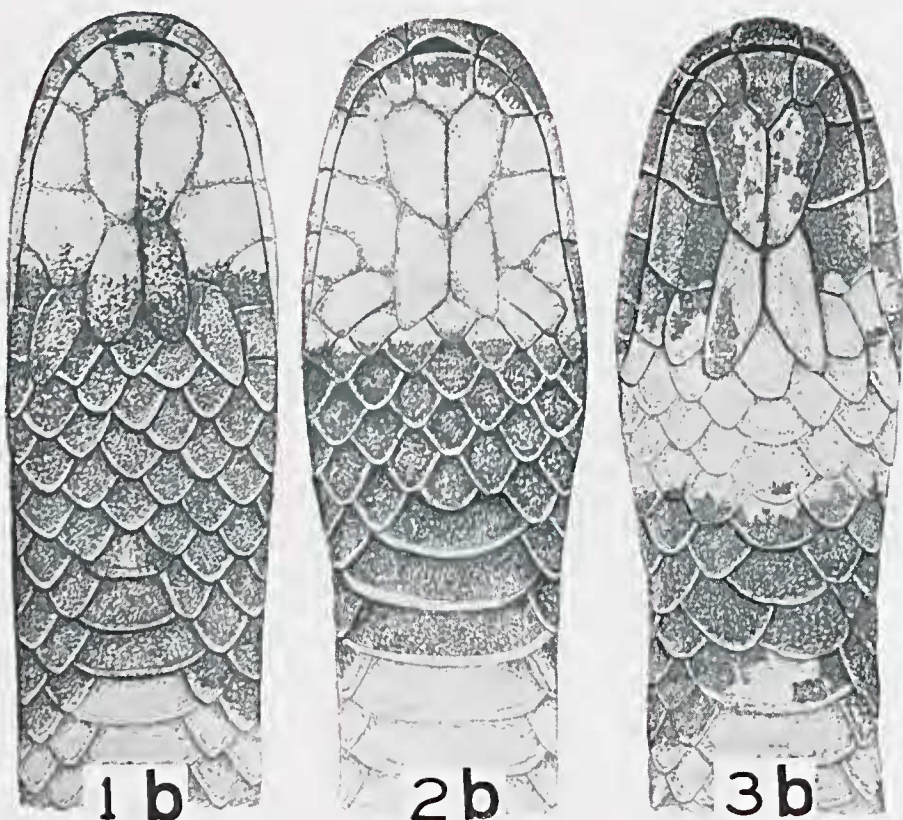
**LEPTOMICRURUS** Schmidt

1937 *Leptomicrurus Schmidt* — Zool. Ser. Field. Mus. Natural History, 20:363

*Genotype*: *Elaps collaris* Schlegel, 1837

Maxillary very short, extending behind palatine; without teeth other than the enlarged fangs. Praefrontals meeting (or nearly meeting) on the median line; supratemporal very small except in *collaris*; head small, not distinct from neck; no loreal; first pair of lower labials widely separated by the synfiscal, which broadly meet the anterior chin shields. Body cylindrical; scales in 15 rows all smooth, without apical pits; tail very short, subcaudals in 2 rows. Color dark brown, nearly black. Belly of the same color with large rounded yellowish-orange spots not forming annuli on the body. A white collar on the head.

*Range:* The Guianas, and Amazonian forests of Ecuador, Peru, Colombia, Bolivia and Brazil.



1b — *Leptomicrurus narduccii*.  
 2b — *Leptomicrurus Schmidtii* sp. nov.  
 3b — *Leptomicrurus collaris* (after a picture).

*Artificial key to the species of Leptomicrurus*

- A — Temporal formula 0 + 1; nuchal white collar behind the parietals (Fig. 3a, 3c)  
 ..... *collaris*
- B — Temporal formula 1 + 1; nuchal white collar crossing the parietals (Fig. 2c, 1c)
- 1 — Ventrals more than 231 ..... *narduccii*
- 2 — Ventrals 219 ..... *Schmidtii*

**LEPTOMICRURUS COLLARIS** (Schlegel, 1837)

1837 *Elaps collaris* Schlegel, Essai Phys. Ser., 2:448

*Type locality:* Unknown — here designated as "The Guianas".

1844 *Elaps collaris*; Schlegel, Abb. Amph., :137 & Atlas pl. 46, fig. 10, 11.

- 1854 *Elaps gastrodelus*, Duméril, Bibron et Duméril, Erp. Gén., 7(2):1212  
*Type locality*: Unknown
- 1858 *Elaps collaris*; Jan, Rev. Mag. Zool., 7:518
- 1859 *Elaps collaris*; Jan, Rev. Mag. Zool., 1859:509-510
- 1863 *Elaps collaris*; Jan, Elenco Sist., 1863:114
- 1873 *Elaps collaris*; Jan et Sordelli, Icon. Gen. Ophid., livr. 43, pl. 1, fig. 1
- 1886 *Hemibungarus collaris*; Boettger, Ber. Senck. Gesch., 1886:117
- 1896 *Hemibungarus collaris*; Boulenger, Cat. Sn. Brit. Mus., 3:396
- 1922 *Hemibungarus collaris*; Taylor, Publ. Bul. Sci. Manila, 16:269
- 1937 *Leptomicrurus collaris*; Schmidt, Zool. Ser. Field Mus. Nat. Hist., 20:261

Rostral broader than deep, just visible from above; internasals shorter than praefrontals which are longer than broad; frontal one and half to twice as long as broad, as long as its distance from the rostral, nearly as long as the parietals, 1 praecular, longer than deep, in contact with posterior nasal; 2 postoculars, temporals 0 + 1; 7 upper labials (3<sup>th</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>) the 6<sup>th</sup> meeting largely the parietal; symphisal largely in contact with anterior chin shields which are as long as the posterior. Ventrals 215-230; dorsals in 15 rows; subcaudals 12-22.

*Color*: Dark brown, nearly black above; a series of rounded yellowish-orange spots on the belly and tail; a white collar behind the parietals (sometimes crossing the posterior parts of parietals).

*Range*: The Guianas.

*Material*: 1 specimen without n.º from the collection of "Institut Pasteur", French Guiana.

N.º 985 MHNP — Guiana (This specimen is not the type of *gastrodelus* as Schmidt suspected, 1937:362).

N.º 3930 MHNP — Type of *gastrodelus*.

#### LEPTOMICRURUS NARDUCHI (Jan, 1863)

- 1863 *Elaps narduccii*; Jan, Arch. Zool. Ana. Phys., 2:222  
*Type locality*: Ecuador
- 1869 *Elaps scutiventris* Cope, Proc. Amer. Phil. Soc., 11:156  
*Type locality*: Pebas on Amazon region
- 1872 *Elaps narduccii*; Jan et Sordelli, Icon. Gen. Ophid., livr. 42, pl. 6, fig. 5
- 1881 *Elaps melanotus*; Peters, Sitsb. Ges. Naturf. Freunde :51
- 1896 *Elaps narduccii*; Boulenger, Cat. Sn. Brit. Mus., 3:433
- 1918 *Elaps narduccii*; Gomes, Rev. Mus. Paulista, 10:524

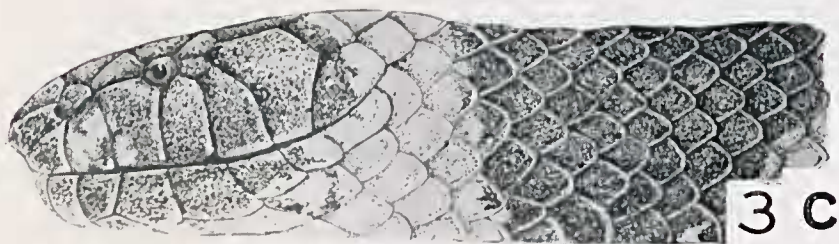
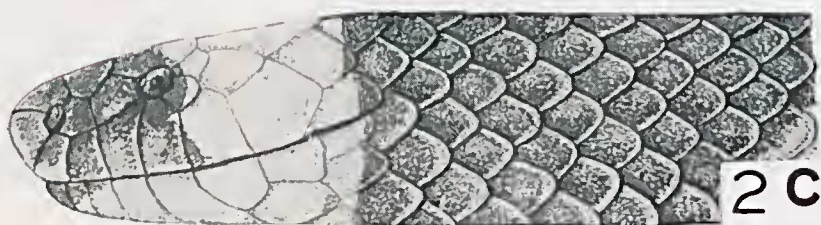
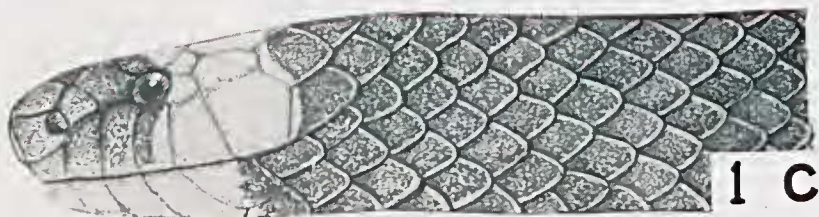
1919 *Elaps uarducci*; Griffin, Mem. Carnegie Mus., 7:220

1929 *Micrurus uarducci*; Amaral, Mem. Inst. Butantan, 4:231

1936 *Micrurus uarducci*; Schmidt, Zool. Ser. Field Mus. Nat. Hist., 20(19):190

1937 *Leptomicrurus uarducci*; Schmidt, Zool. Ser. Field. Mus. Nat. Hist., 20(1)

Rostral broader than deep, just visible from above; internasals shorter than praefrontals which are broader than long; frontal one and a half to one and two thirds as long as broad, a little longer than its distance from the rostral shorter or nearly as long as the parietals; 1 praecular, in contact with posterior nasal; 2 postoculars; temporals 1+1; 7 upper labials (3<sup>th</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>) the 6<sup>th</sup> largest; symphisal meeting largely the anterior chin shields which are as long as the posterior. Ventrals 231-315; dorsals in 15 rows; anal divided; subcaudals 15-33.



- 1c — *Leptomicrurus uarducci*.  
 2c — *Leptomicrurus Schmidtii* sp. nov.  
 3c — *Leptomicrurus collaris* (after a picture).

*Color*: Dark brown, nearly black above; a series of roundish yellowish-orange spots on the belly and tail; a white collar crossing the parietals, frontal and supraoculars.

*Range*: Equatorial forests of Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Bolivia, known from the State of Acre, Brazil.

*Material*: AMNH 52 222 and AMNH 52 223, proc. from Achinamisa, River Huallaga, Peru. AMNH 53 145, proc. from Chasuta, River Huallaga, Peru; AMNH 52 255 Ayambis, River Santiago, Peru; AMNH 52 537 River Nanay, Iquitos, Peru; AMNH 52 803 upper Iaya, San Antonio, Iquitos, Peru; AMNH 52 889 Roaboya, River Ucayale, Peru; AMNH n.ºs 52 409, 524 100, 536 570, 537 520, 54 456, 54 896, 55 020, 55 030, 55 045, all from River Itaya, Iquitos, Peru. AMNH 53 668, 59 481, from Iquitos, Peru. AMNH 35 885, 35 886, Banosa Canelas, Ecuador. AMNH 35 962, Turula, Ecuador. AMNH 36 030, M. Canelos, Ecuador. AMNH 35 934, Rio Bamba, Chanala, Ecuador; AMNH 35 824 Macas and Vicinity of Ecuador. AMNH 35 883, Barros and Canelos, Ecuador; 17 754 IB formerly 07"195 MNHNP, Peru, collected by Escomel. 16"69 MNHNP without locality; 6143 MNHNP, Ecuador.

#### ABSTRACT

Description of a new species of *Leptomicrurus* from Brasil, *Leptomicrurus Schmidtii* (in honour to the lat Prof. K. P. Schmidt), from Tapurucuara, M. Uaupés, Rio Negro, Amazonas. The occurrence of *Leptomicrurus narducci* in Brazil is definitively registered for State of Acre.

#### RESUMO

Descrição de uma nova espécie de *Leptomicrurus* do Brasil, *Leptomicrurus Schmidtii* (em honra ao Prof. K. P. Schmidt), vindos de Tapurucuara, M. Uaupés, Rio Negro, Amazonas. A ocorrência de *Leptomicrurus narducci* é registrada definitivamente no Brasil, no Estado do Acre.

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## BIBLIOGRAPHY

1. *Gomes, J. F.* — Contribuição para o conhecimento dos ophídios do Brasil. II. Ophídios do Museu Rocha (Ceará). *Rev. Mus. Paulista*, 10:503-527.
2. *Schmidt, K. P.* — The history of *Elaps collaris* Schlegel. *Zool. Ser. Field Mus. Nat. Hist.*, 20(26):361-364, Chicago.

